This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the Application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1-46:   (*cancelled*)

47.   (*previously added*) A system for distributing and redeeming electronic coupons comprising:

a first server system including a computer processor and associated memory, said first server system being connected by a communications channel to a client system, said first server system being adapted for transmitting an electronic coupon to said client system over said communications channel;

said client system including a computer processor and associated memory, said client system being adapted for storing said electronic coupon in said memory;

a second server system connected to said communications channel, said second server system being adapted to establish a connection with said client system and for detecting said electronic coupon stored on said client system, said second server system further being adapted to redeem said electronic coupon.

48.   (*previously added*) A system according to claim 47 further comprising:

a third server system connected to said communications channel, said third server system

being adapted for communicating with said second server system and for authorizing the

redemption of said electronic coupon.

49.   (*previously added*) A system according to claim 47 wherein said second server system is

adapted to redeem said coupon as a function of a transaction initiated between said client system

and said second server system.

50.   (*previously added*) A system according to claim 47 wherein said second server system is

adapted to redeem said coupon by modifying a transaction initiated between said client system

and said second server system.

51.   (*previously added*) A system according to claim 47 wherein said communications

channel includes a network.

52.   (*currently amended*) A system according to claim 47 wherein said communications

channel includes a TCP/IP based network and said coupon includes a [cookie] data component.

53.   (*previously added*) A system according to claim 47 wherein said first server system and said second server system are the same server system.

54.   (*previously added*) The system according to claim 47 wherein said electronic coupon is a token issued under the authority of an issuer for the benefit of said client.

55.   (*previously added*) The system according to claim 47 wherein said electronic coupon includes data representative of one or more of a serial or identification number, a validation key, an authentication key, an authorizing vendor, a redeeming vendor, a benefit or discount to be associated with a transaction, a level of access granted, and an issuing activity.

56.   (*previously added*) The system according to claim 47 wherein said electronic coupon includes data representative of the identity of a location at which additional coupon information resides.

57.   (*currently amended*) A method of distributing and redeeming an electronic coupon

comprising the steps of:

A) establishing a connection over a communications channel between a client and a

server;

B) transferring said electronic coupon from said server to said client;

C) establishing a connection over a communications channel between said client and a

subsequent server, said subsequent server including one of said server and other servers;

D) said client requesting information from said subsequent server;

E) said subsequent server [recognizing] detecting said electronic coupon on said client;

F) said subsequent server redeeming said electronic coupon as a function of a transaction

initiated between said client and said subsequent server.

58.   (*previously added*) A method of distributing and redeeming an electronic coupon

according to claim 57 wherein prior to step A, the server receives a request for information from

the client.

59.   (*previously added*) A method of distributing and redeeming an electronic coupon

according to claim 57 further comprising the step of:

authenticating said electronic coupon and authorizing a transaction between said client

and subsequent server as a function of an authenticated electronic coupon.

60.   (*previously added*) A method of distributing and redeeming an electronic coupon

according to claim 57 further comprising the steps of:

establishing a connection between said subsequent server and an authentication server;

said authentication server authenticating said electronic coupon and authorizing the

redemption of said electronic coupon.